



U.S. Small Business Administration

Office of the National Ombudsman

Regulatory Fairness Hearing for Small Business

Tuesday, January 22, 2008

Austin, TX

Small business owners will have an opportunity to discuss issues regarding Federal regulatory compliance and enforcement issues during this forum sponsored by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

WHO: SBA National Ombudsman Nicholas Owens, members of the Region VI Regulatory Fairness Board and representatives of Federal regulatory agencies will hear issues and comments about Federal regulatory enforcement and compliance. Small business owners, representatives of trade associations and community and business leaders are invited to comment about compliance and enforcement of regulations by Federal agencies and to learn more about the impact of federal regulations on small businesses.

WHAT: To create a more cooperative regulatory environment among Federal agencies and small businesses, Congress has directed the SBA and the Office of the National Ombudsman to hold Regulatory Fairness forums. Issues addressed at this forum will be directed to the appropriate Federal regulatory agency for a higher-level review of the fairness in the enforcement action. In many instances, the National Ombudsman's action has resulted in Federal agencies reducing or waiving penalties and/or compliance actions in cases of unfair or excessive regulatory enforcement.

WHERE: Austin City Hall
City Hall Chamber – Room 1001
301 W. 2nd St.
Austin, TX 78701

WHEN: Tuesday, January 22, 2008
Registration: 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Hearing: 9:30 a.m. to Noon

Small business owners may testify during the hearing by registering in advance. Please call Lucille Salinas of the SBA San Antonio District Office at (210) 403-5921 or by email at Lucille.salinas@sba.gov. Testimony may be submitted in writing in advance or at the hearing. Anyone desiring confidentiality may request that his or her name not be released and may submit written testimony in lieu of a public appearance at the hearing.

For additional information, visit the Office of the National Ombudsman's website at www.sba.gov/ombudsman



Make Your Voice Heard!



All of the SBA's programs and services are provided to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made, if requested at least 2 weeks in advance. Contact: Lucille Salinas at (210) 403-5921